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**MARKED UP CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) Apparatus for switching data from any of a plurality of inputs to any of a plurality of outputs, comprising:

apparatus for receiving a plurality of input bit packs organized in a combination of input data rails and time slots;

apparatus for selecting any [one] of the input bit packs from any [one] of the rails

in any [one] of the time slots; and

apparatus for conveying said selected bit pack to any [an] output data position within a combination of output data rails and time slots.

5. (Amended) Apparatus for switching data from any of N input positions arranged as T time slots on R rails to any of M output positions arranged as T2 time slots on R2 rails; comprising:

apparatus for receiving input data arranged as bit packs in T time slots on R rails;

apparatus for selecting data from any [one] of the R rails and latching the selected data during a predetermined time slot to thereby select a bit pack of predetermined R and T values; and

apparatus for conveying said selected bit pack to any [an] output position of predetermined R2 and T2 values.

6. (Amended) Apparatus for switching data from any of N input positions arranged as T time slots on R rails to any of M output positions arranged as T2 time slots on R2 rails, comprising:

M selection blocks, each configured to select a bit pack for a different one of the output positions, and each block including:

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apparatus for receiving input data arranged as bit packs in T time slots on R rails;

apparatus for selecting data from any [one] of the R rails and latching the selected data during a predetermined time slot to thereby select a bit pack of predetermined R and T values; and

apparatus for conveying said selected bit pack to any [an] output position of predetermined T2 and R2 values.

11. (Amended) Apparatus for switching data from any of N input positions arranged as T time slots on R rails to any of M output positions arranged as T2 time slots on R2 rails, comprising:

R2 selection blocks, each configured to select a bit pack for a different one of the output positions, and each block including:

apparatus for receiving input data arranged as bit packs on N rails;

apparatus for selecting data from any [one] of the N rails; and

apparatus for conveying said selected bit pack to any [an] output position of predetermined T2 and R2 values.

18. (Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein step (a) comprises the further step of:

(d) selecting a bit pack from any [one] of the N rails.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein step (a) further comprises the steps of:

(c) receiving input data arranged as bit packs in T time slots on R rails, and

(d) selecting data from any [one] of the R rails and latching the selected data during a predetermined time slot to thereby select a bit pack of predetermined R and T values.